

Johannes Kritzl, Good, exemplary priests? Passau's Officialate disciplining the secular clergy, as documented in the *Passauer Protokolle* (1580–1652) (p. 62–86)

This paper deals with the contribution of the Passau Officialate in Vienna to the Catholicization of the rural clergy in Lower Austria from 1580 to 1652. Three Officials (Melchior Khlesl, Karl von Kirchberg, Martin Geiger) were chosen and for their time in office samples were drawn up, naming and quantifying the offences for which parish priests were summoned to the Consistory. In considering the fields of often conflicting forces in the process of Catholicization, it became apparent that the Officialate was the weakest player and was limited by the other Catholic players to its role in forming exemplary priests.

The *Passauer Protokolle* documenting the sessions of the Official and his assessors, preserved in the Diocesan Archives of Vienna (Diözesanarchiv Wien) and the Bavarian Main State Archive (Bayerisches Hauptstaatsarchiv) in Munich, serve as the foremost source.

Keywords: diocese of Passau; parish clergy; Catholic reform; Melchior Khlesl

Schlagworte: Diözese Passau; Pfarrklerus; Katholische Reform; Melchior Khlesl